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Warm up to
these gifts Page 7



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Euphemism no cure for dementia



For years, China has been lumping many forms of age-related cognitive loss under the umbrella term of "senile dementia."

Now CCTV is leading the charge to find a newer, more descriptive term for the ailments.

But even if the families who have a loved one suffering from one of these conditions might appreciate the less discriminatory name, doctors say love and care are far more effective in combatting the disease.

Read more on Page 3



Page 4 Raising expectations

The Edinburgh Fringe Showcase 2012 is bringing the world's best plays in hopes that China's theatergoers will learn to demand more from domestic playwrights.

Zen and
emotion in
her art

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Farming,
bullfighting
and beauty

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Nike fined for false ads

By Zhao Hongyi

The Beijing Administration for Industry and Commerce recently fined Nike 4.87 million yuan for using different standards for its latest basketball shoes sold on the Chinese market.

The penalty is intended as a warning to all multinationals that their China operations should be held to the same standards and practices used in their business abroad.

Nike found guilty

In 2011, Nike released the Nike Zoom Hyperdunk 2011, the latest in its line of basketball shoes, on the China market for 1,299 yuan – 500 yuan more expensive than the same model costs in the US and other markets.

The shoe was advertised as containing a “double air cushion.”

Last October, Wang Hai, famous for busting deceptive advertisers, found that almost all of the shoes being sold in Beijing and throughout China were a single air cushion model and cost 1,299 yuan – more expensive than advertised on the official Nike website.

Wang learned about the switch from his friend and purchased several pairs of shoes to examine as evidence. He soon brought a lawsuit against Nike in Beijing.

The court found that Nike



Nike's flagship store in Beijing

CFP Photo

misled Chinese customers by saying the footwear contained a double air cushion.

Nike China promised to accept returns and offered 300 yuan as compensation, but the Beijing Administration for Industry and Commerce (BAIC) had already started an official investigation.

“Nike applied double standards for Chinese and foreign consumers. Such behavior cannot be tolerated,” Liu Jian, a spokesman for BAIC, told the *Beijing News*.

“It’s not merely neglect,” Liu said. “This is willful behavior.”

BACI issued the fine this week as a warning, not only to Nike but also to the many multinationals engaging in similarly deceptive practices.

Multinationals punished

Nike is not alone.

On March 15, Consumer Rights Protection Day, Chi-

nese Central Television (CCTV) exposed a McDonald’s location in Sanlitun for selling expired hamburgers to its clients and operating a kitchen that was in violation of sanitation codes.

The next day, the government investigated the shop, forcing the McDonald’s to close for several months.

Apple, Lipton and Coca Cola all have been condemned for applying double standards when doing business in China, Xinhua News reports.

Many imported cars sold in China refused to answer calls about safety problems even when they were given free repairs in the rest of the world.

Carrefour, a French hypermarket chain, was fined and punished for illegally charging an entrance fee to domestic suppliers and selling expired pork and poultry last year.

Many imported baby formulas were also found to have problems, but it was difficult

to locate the real exporters. Local government agencies had to punish the importers as a warning.

Consumers disappointed

Since 2008, BACI has investigated more than 80,000 alleged business infractions and issued 960 million yuan in fines, according to Liu.

Typical offenders include hospitals that accept bribes from medical equipment and medicine suppliers, real estate developers and middle and primary school textbook distributors, which have frequently attempted to form a monopoly.

“We have laws and regulations designed to prevent and punish these illegal business behaviors,” Liu said at the press briefing. “Business entities should conduct business both legally and honestly.”

“We expect multinationals

to set good examples for domestic businesses,” said Shen Xiaoyan, a young mother. “Their behavior disappoints me.”

“Businessmen are the same around the world. They are using every means to cut their costs and earn as much as possible,” she said.

“The only way to deal with immoral and dishonest business is to use the law and fight back,” Liu said. “No matter whether it is a multinational or domestic business.”

Liu said BACI would not tolerate cheating and misconduct – especially from businesses that apply a lower standard to their dealings in China.

The State Council issued a regulation this week to force manufacturers to recall their vehicles once safety problems were found, otherwise they will face “serious penalties ... if needed.”

Beijing Today begins digital transition

By Bao Chengrong

Beijing Youth Daily Group, which owns this newspaper, and Ritech Group from Yancheng, Jiangsu Province, signed a strategic cooperation in digital publishing on October 29.

A Beijing Today App will be the first product.

Ritech Group invested 8.18 million yuan to acquire a 44.9 percent stake in Today Media, a subsidiary of Beijing Youth Daily Group.

Ai Shungang, president of Ritech Group, displayed his company’s latest digital products for education and business at the signing ceremony.

Ritech Group, a research and development company with 700 employees, is dedicated to developing digital media that integrates video,



Li Xiaobing, deputy president of Beijing Youth Daily, and Ai Shungang, president of Ritech Group, at the signing ceremony

Photo by Geng Lei

audio and animation for a superior interactive experience.

“Digital publishing should re-create rather than merely copying content from traditional media,” Ai said.

Zhang Yanping, president of Beijing Youth Daily Group, praised Ritech Group for its

innovative spirit. He said that one of the reasons traditional media groups have failed to profit in the digital age is because they offer only crude digital conversions.

Zhang said he hoped the cooperation with Ritech Group would achieve a breakthrough.

“The cooperation is a small step for both groups, but a giant leap for pushing traditional media and new media to move forward hand in hand,” said Yang Lixian, deputy party secretary of Beijing Municipal Committee and Communist Youth League.

Major media outlets, such as the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today* and *Guardian*, have all dabbled in digital publishing.

Paywalls around digital content have boosted newspaper’s circulation business in the US. Digital circulation accounted for 15.3 percent of all US newspaper circulation from March to September, up from 9.8 percent in 2011, according to the Audit Bureau of Circulations.

The *Wall Street Journal*,

with a weekly print and digital circulation of nearly 2.3 million, has become the biggest newspaper by circulation in US.

The *New York Times* increased 40.3 percent to reach a circulation of 1.6 million. Its weekday print fell 6.9 percent while digital distribution rose 135.8 percent.

Profits from subscribers rose 8.3 percent to \$233 million, according to *New York Times*’ second quarter financial report.

It was the first time in the *New York Times*’ history that subscribers contributed more to the total profit than advertisements.

Yu Haibo, editor-in-chief, and Li Xiaobing, deputy president of Beijing Youth Daily, Zhuang Zhaolin and Cheng Hongzhong, officials from Yancheng, attended the ceremony.

Name change hoped to end dementia's stigma

By Liang Xiyi

For years, China has been lumping many forms of age-related cognitive loss under the umbrella term of "senile dementia."

But as society becomes more aware of the different causes of dementia, there has been a call for the medical community to adopt a more specific and less discriminatory term for this group of ailments.

On September 12, CCTV called for an online vote to rename senile dementia.

More than 1.34 million respondents logged on to vote by 11 am on October 23. The more descriptive "cerebral degeneration" won with more than 40 percent of the vote. Fewer than 10 percent supported keeping the current term.

CCTV has delivered its results to the Medical Terminology Committee, where experts will discuss whether to implement the change.

Mai Shangwen, an associate professor at Jinan University, said the initiative "sets a good example for the public and shows the government is willing to take the lead in making a positive change."

During China's rapid transformation, many basic elements of communication have been left by the wayside. Although senile dementia remains in popular use, the term carries a sharp tone of discrimination.

Alzheimer's disease

Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia.

It was first described by German psychiatrist and neuropathologist Alois Alzheimer in 1906, and was named after him. In its early stages, the most common symptom is difficulty remembering recent events.

As the disease advances, a person can suffer from confusion, irritability and aggression, mood swings, trouble with language and long-term memory loss. During this decline, they often withdraw from family and society.

Gradually, bodily functions are lost, ultimately leading to death.

In China, senile dementia is commonly used by the public, but there is no such term in use by neurologists.

According to the sixth nationwide population census in 2010, there are 177.6 million people older than 60.

Some 4.2 percent of them suffer from Alzheimer's dis-



Someone receives a Yellow bracelet at a Shanghai distribution site. The Chinese reads, "Please help me!"

CFP Photo

ease, said Yan Jun, director of mental health at the Ministry of Health's Disease Control Bureau.

A family problem

Most families have some experience with the disease, either through their own members or famous figures.

On CCTV's "My Father and Mother," singer Cai Guoqing told the story of his mother, who was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 2002.

In the beginning, Cai felt his mother, now 77, was merely having a hard time remembering things. Once, she left the water boiling and forgot about it.

Cai did not recognize his mother's "strange" behavior as the early symptoms of Alzheimer's disease until she was struggling to speak clearly. Even though he knew the truth, the stigma of "senile dementia" made him

avoid mentioning his mother's illness.

"Senile dementia makes it sound like my mother is getting stupid," Cai said. "It feels really miserable. Sometimes, I wish my mother suffered heart disease or was disabled in a

different way where I could still talk to her. I feel isolated and don't know how to step into her world."

"Language

can carry a

sense of

judgement. It

can spread

ideas that influence how people identify themselves," said Zhang Jie, an associate professor of sociology at Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

However, for the patients themselves, the name is not such a big deal.

Love, the best treatment

A doctor surnamed Zhao who frequently sees patients

with Alzheimer's disease at Beijing Song Tang Caring Hospital, said renaming the disease won't do that much.

She said the name has little influence on the patients because they don't care about it.

"By the time patients come to the hospital, most of them are in the advanced stages of the disease," Zhao said. "It's really difficult for the family to sense the disease in its early stages."

While it is not possible to cure Alzheimer's disease, it is possible to delay some of the more advanced symptoms.

Zhao said psychological therapy is usually more important than medicine. Although sometimes the patients cannot remember their own children, they just feel happy to have others talk with them.

"As a doctor, I sense that some of the patients feel very happy when they see their children," Zhao said.

When patients lose their memory or get lost in the past, it doesn't mean they can't communicate or think.

Some children leave their parents in the hospital for a very long time without visiting them. The sadness on the faces of these old people is painfully obvious.

"Family company is of vital importance in delaying the disease," Zhao said.

On October 23, Seniors' Day on the traditional calendar, Beijingers were able to get yellow bracelets from 360buy.com for free. The yellow bracelets are intended to help people recognize elders who might be lost.

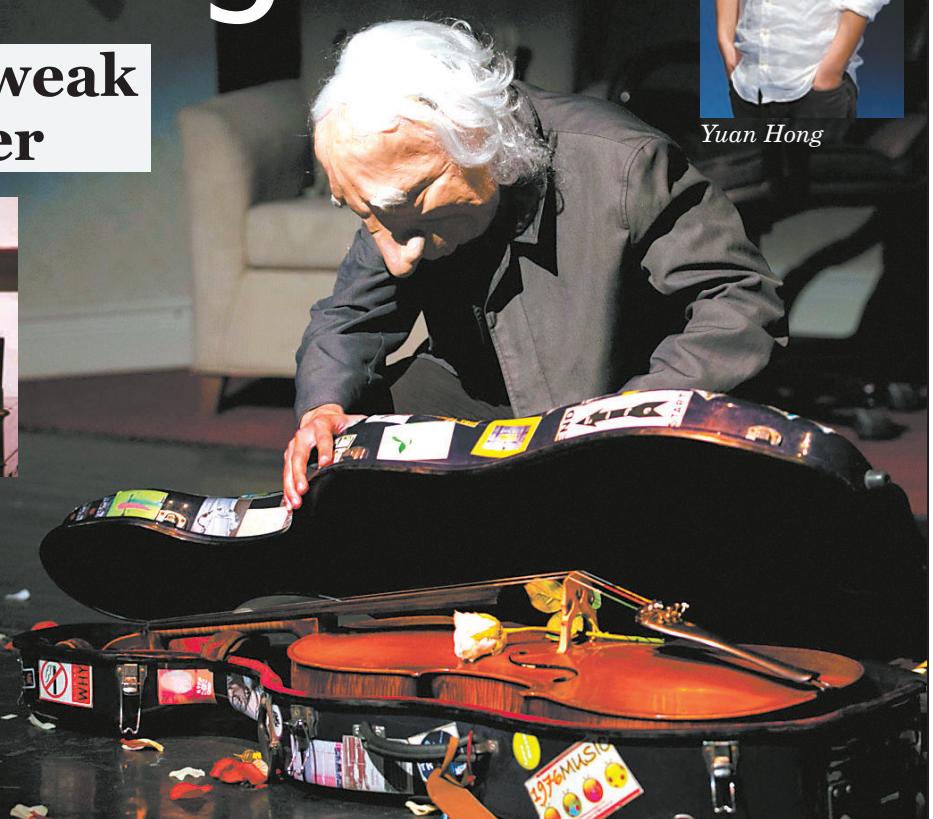
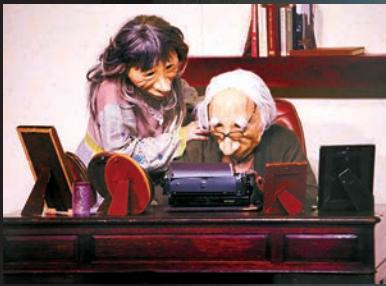
Mei Songzheng, president of the Sichuan Gulin Guanwen Town Meisong government clinic, said many disease names carry a similar discriminatory tone: Hepatitis B, syphilis and epilepsy among the most severe.

"Too many diseases would need to be renamed. Some names are used only because it is easy to remember and understand," Mei said.

"We should focus less on fixing the name than treating the patient. When the disease can be cured, it won't be a problem and the name won't be so upsetting."

Showcase brings the best of Edinburgh

Foreign dramas reveal weak spots in domestic theater



Yuan Hong

Stills from André and Dorine

Photos provided by Zhen Zhu

By Bao Chengrong

The renowned Spanish play *André and Dorine* has been a runaway success on its second trip to China. It's hard to believe that last year it failed to sell even half its seats in Shanghai.

This year, it is the first production being shown as part of the Edinburgh Fringe Showcase 2012. It has played to packed houses in four cities.

Excellent foreign plays

The Showcase promises to bring more excellent plays to Beijingers during the coming months.

Yuan Hong, the producer, has already confirmed plans to bring the Scottish play *The Monster in the Hall* and the Hong Kong play *Detention* to the capital.

Yuan said the plays were selected for their ability to appeal to viewers from any culture.

"An excellent play should have the ability to go beyond words and be understood by those who don't understand the language of lines," Yuan said.

Lines were not a problem in *André and Dorine* – a silent play. However, the set was.

Yuan and his colleagues at Beijing 707 N-theater spared no expense to create the best set for the play, renting a prop cello from a professional cellist and buying a beautiful desk from a Shanghai businessman.

The Kulunka Theatre

Company called the set the best it ever used – even better than its set in Spain.

The expensive props meant that *André and Dorine* earned less than 1,000 yuan for each performance during its run, but Yuan said he was satisfied.

The production was fraught with challenges. In Hangzhou, Yuan had to rent theaters on his own and handle ticket sales, marketing and promotion.

"As long as you show you are sincere in doing something, you can pass that energy to someone else," he said.

Yuan has been bringing foreign plays to China since 2002, when he ran the independent North Theater. His efforts have brought such plays as *Monologue of Strindberg*, *Smallpox*, *Hot-dog* and *The Overcoat* to China.

Unlike Chinese plays

Yuan said his original intention was to expose people to foreign works in hopes of raising the bar for domestic productions.

He was disappointed to see some Beijing comedies, very popular with the locals, failed to resonate with audiences in Shenzhen and Guangzhou.

But more depressing was the fact Chinese comedies were being churned out purely for laughs: the playwrights spent two to three weeks rather than three to five years crafting each work.

"Theaters are cheap today. Since applause and box-office earnings come easy, no one wants to take it seriously," Yuan said.

Rehearsals for *André and Dorine* lasted eight months. Hidden under large masks, the actors had to take time to practice the accuracy of each movement and learn to cooperate.

"They don't have expressions, but they send rich emotions through every movement of their bodies, every step and every gesture," Yuan said.

Domestic plays lack such attention to detail, he said.

Members of the Kulunka Theatre Company were also quite aware of the costs of a production. To save €150 (1,215 yuan) on each ticket, the members opted to fly first to Madrid, then to Shanghai via Beijing.

The troupe managed to control the duration of the play to within 45 seconds of the expected run time. It was hard to do since audience reactions varied from one city to another.

Yuan said Chinese performers often cut 30 minute or more out of plays by skipping scenes they don't feel like doing. Others run far over the time in hopes of winning more applause.

"I wanted people to see it is possible to watch a good play at a low price. The next time they go to a theater,

they would have better taste and pass up cheap productions. This will force producers to create better works," Yuan said.

"Spain is in an economic nightmare. Even so, Spanish artists continue to create and find ways to communicate with society at large."

Undeveloped potential

Beijing viewers would miss out on the chance to see a play of the showcase that performed in Shanghai since no theaters allow viewers to stand and watch the play.

"China's small theaters are just scaled down big theaters. A real small theater should have unlimited possibilities," Yuan said.

Part of that desire to emulate big-theater culture may be from a national policy that only allows big box-office performers to enter.

Theater rental on the Chinese mainland is the most expensive in the world. The largest theater in Tsim Sha Tsui, Hong Kong has 1,700 seats and costs HK \$28,000 (22,537 yuan) to rent, yet the Guangzhou Opera House costs 200,000 yuan.

Even a theater with as few as 500 seats charges no less than 30,000 yuan.

Active small theaters seem to lack unique characteristics and adapt themselves to any mid- or low-level play.

Yuan said his ideal small theater would be similar to

Young Vic Theater on the north side of London. It hosts 900 performances per year and includes a bar and restaurant. The profit from bar and restaurant accounts is a fifth of the theater's revenue.

Young Vic Theater welcomes crowds as soon as it opens in the morning. A wall separates the performance hall from the restaurant and bar.

Yuan said he's never seen another small theater that pays so much attention to detail. In China, most have poorly cleaned toilets and filthy sinks. The floor of the auditorium creaked when people pass by and the coffee sucks.

"I don't care how well you manage a theater. You could at least put in the effort to provide guests with a decent cup of coffee," he said.

Yuan said he hopes people from more social classes will have a chance to see plays. Current policies seek only to boost box office sales rather than audience diversity. Yuan envisions a time when trash collectors, migrant workers and their children will be able to attend the theater.

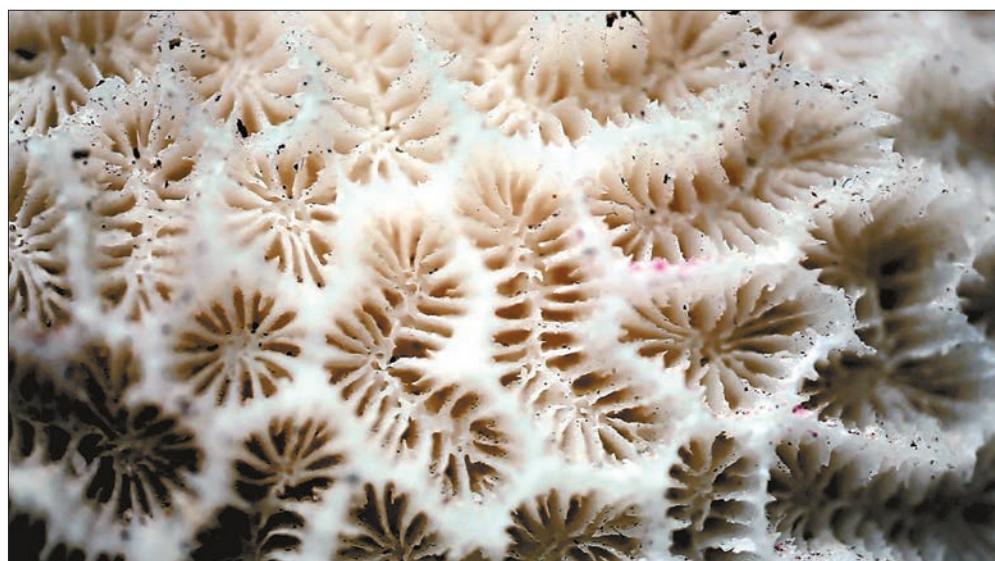
"I prefer being a member of the audience and paying 50 yuan to see a play," he said.

"If China's theater atmosphere improves during the next decade, I'll probably step down. The prosperity of its performances is none of my business."

The long journey to Zen

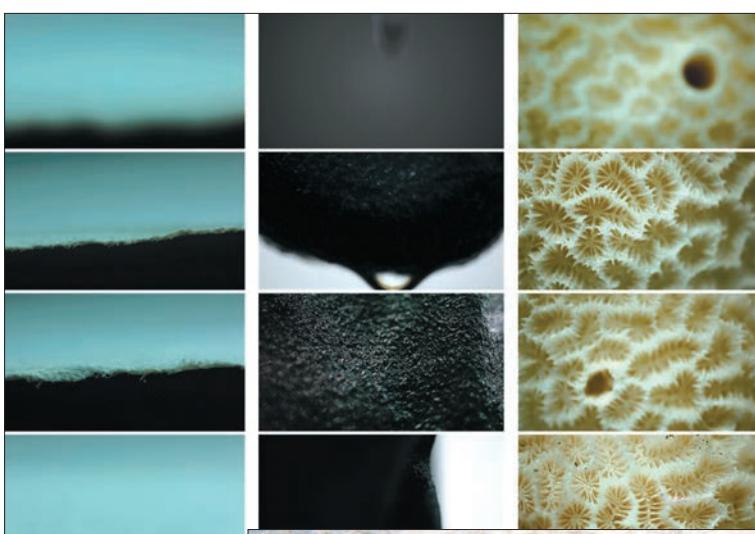


Hu Xiaoyuan



Drawn Dust, 3-channel video

Photos provided by Beijing Commune

Drawn Dust,
3-channel video

No Fruit at the Root, wood, Chinese ink, silk, white paint

By Celine Lin

Hu Xiaoyuan's works, painstakingly rendered, are complex in poetic and meditative ways. They can be seen in her solo exhibition *No Fruit at the Root* at Beijing Commune in 798 Art District.

Hu, 35, was born in Harbin, Heilongjiang Province and graduated from the Design Department of the Central Academy of Fine Arts in 2002. Her art, entwined with personal emotion, has drawn international attention.

Before 2007, Hu was even more focused on creating personal art. In *This 101.92 Square Meter Structure*, she used her own hair and hair from her pet, family members and boyfriend and stuck them to a heart-shaped piece of wood with a light-pink frame. The hair curled, one after another.

In another work, *A Keepsake I Cannot Give Away*, finished between 2005 and 2006, Hu embroidered her hair on 20 pieces of white twill silk, creating a variety of traditional Chinese images and calling them names such as "Mandarin Ducks Play Amongst the Lotus" and "Two Flying Swallows." A more controversial image was one that resembled a female reproductive organ, called "The Vanessa Butterfly and the Day Lilies."

The messages conveyed by these works are conspicuous. In 2008, she began to produce a series of works called *Wood*.

"Initially, I was interested in thinking about the tension in differences and similarity, conformity and estrangement between an object's facade and its essence," she said. "But when I interacted with others at the opening ceremony, laughing out loud or babbling, there was an inner sound in my mind, reminding me to behave impeccably at all times."

She said she had to examine herself and was made hyper-aware of her actions and words.

"I felt desperate," she said.

Her work became an inspection of introspection and Zen.

The process of making *Wood* was painstaking and time-consuming. It included polishing the wood, and involved silk, Chinese ink and black nail polish.

Among the works are "The Root" and "Fruit," which are probing and full of meaning.

"'Fruit' represents life, consummation or something conclusive," Hu said.

Hu's works are spiritual, but they are also questioning. There is tension in an object's appearance and essence.

The series was exhibited in New York in February. Hu stayed there for 14 days and got more ideas.

"Our names and identities are given by the outside world," she said. "A simple instance: we name a long thin tube with ink inside a pen. But it is not a pen. It might just be a toy to a dog, or trash to someone who doesn't need it. Will it change its essence because of others' opinion?"

Many of these ideas are featured in *No Fruit at the Root*.

Viewers who visit are first met with three horizontal screens laid side by side. Utilizing macro lenses, Hu filmed the rim of a paper, a fluffy trouser leg and a revolving scull-shaped coral.

In another small exhibition hall, viewers see another video showing a completely white screen.

"Only when the audience observes the video carefully will they find a giant whiteboard, on my back, moving at a slow pace," Hu said.

The exhibit will last until January 28.

“I gathered many elements that epitomize the Dong people and culture in the film.”
- Zhu Xiaoling

The rice paddy

By Niu Chen

Zhu Xiaoling's *The Rice Paddy* focuses on the ethnic Dong who live in the provinces of southwest China, namely eastern Guizhou, western Hunan and northern Guangxi.

A Qiu is a 12-year-old schoolgirl who dreams of becoming a writer. She lives with her grandparents and eight-year-old brother, A Bao, in a rural area in Guangxi province. Her parents work on construction sites in the city.

At the beginning of the film, A Qiu's parents return home after her grandmother's death. Family members are forced to find jobs besides farming, their traditional way of living, to make ends meet.

When A Qiu is accepted by a senior high school in the city, the family feels pressured and worries about the tuition. So A Qiu's mother works as a part-time singer while her grandfather picks up his old trade: carpentry.

Just as everything is improving, an accident befalls on the family as their house is devoured by a fire. In one of the final scenes, A Qiu is seen packing her schoolbags in the classroom, but we don't know if it's to go home permanently, where she will look for work, or if she'll be off to high school.

“The fire at the end naturally occurred, and we just recorded it,” Zhu said. “But somehow it gave me an idea about protecting cultural heritage and the transition of lifestyles.”

Zhu is a Guangxi native who has been living in France for the last 20 years. She worked at Guangxi Film Studio right after high school as a make-up artist. After working with directors such as Zhang Yimou, Zhu found her interest in filmmaking and decided to further her studies in screenwriting at the Beijing Film Academy from 1985 to 1987.

“I first worked as a log keeper, then as directors' assistants [after finishing education at the academy],” she said.

In 1989, Zhu met Simon Pradinas while he and his colleague were filming a documentary in

Guangxi. They fell in love, and Zhu left for France the same year.

In France, Zhu took a theater class for a year before quitting. “I was offered a job at a French television channel,” she said. “I think practice is more important than theory study, so I quit school.”

Zhu said it was difficult to make Chinese-themed programs back then, and the TV station lacked people who could liaise with China. In the following years, Zhu produced many programs and documentaries about China, including *Xiao Feng* and *Lu Sheng*, which caused a swell of interest in the Dong after its screening in France. *The Rice Paddy* is Zhu's



Photos provided by Zhu Xiaoling

first feature-length film.

“I always wanted to do a feature-length film that satisfies Dong fans to the fullest extent,” Zhu said. “I gathered many elements that epitomize the Dong people and culture in the film.”

In the film, Zhu depicts local life and conditions, such as Gu Lou, farming, bullfighting and a beauty contest. Zhu also portrays a range of characters that reflect the lives of locals as they transition from old to new, such as a father who wants to work in the city, a mother who wants to stay in the village, a teenage girl who dares to dream and craves modern life, and a boy who wants to follow his grandfather's steps to be a carpenter.

The actors in the film are all locals and speak the Dong language throughout the film. Bruno Coulais,

the composer of the film's soundtrack, agreed to work for free.

“I immediately decided on the person to play A Qiu when I saw her,” Zhu said. “I was impressed by her beautiful face, and more importantly her innocence and purity.”

Zhu said that Yang Yingqiu, the actress who plays A Qiu, never left the village before they started filming. “She took the elevator for the first time when I brought her to the place where our crew stayed. She screamed after seeing the water from a flushable toilet.”

Working with amateur actors also troubled Zhu. “It was impossible to ask them to perform anything dramatic,” Zhu said. “In one scene, I asked A Qiu to cry in front of her grandmother's tomb. But she couldn't.”

The film was shot over four seasons in Guangxi and was finished in 2008. But the editing process took a full year.

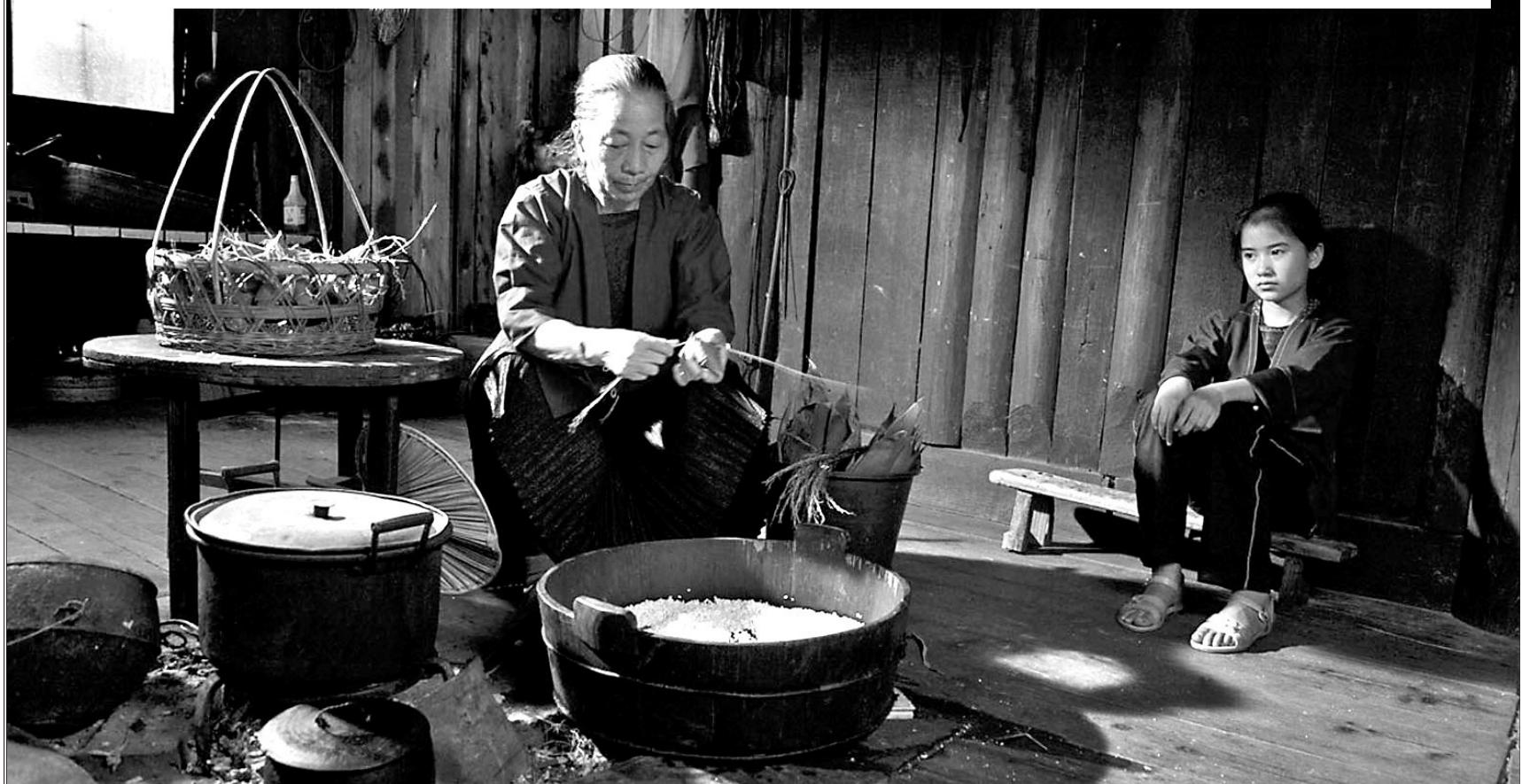
“I made three versions, and the last is very different from the first,” Zhu said. She said many domestic films, especially commercial films, are rushed in post-production, ruining the efforts of the director and the screenwriter. “I understand that they have to manage their budget. But I don't have that problem.”

The Rice Paddy premiered in France on May 2 this year and won acclaim. Zhu said many teachers and students were really fond of the film, and half of the viewers had visited Guangxi. “An old woman told me that she taught at a school in Guangxi for 25 years. Guangxi was like her second home.”

Zhu said the film does more than simply depict a part of Guangxi.

“You have to make the film resonate with viewers,” Zhu said. “One time, several French farmers told me that they were touched by the film. They saw the relationship between the ground and the people.”

Zhu is now preparing to make her second feature-length film, *The Circus of the Yu*.



By Annie Wei

The key to staying happy in the winter is keeping yourself warm from the inside out.

Here are a few things that can help.

Pampering yourself in cold days



Photo provided by Cabbean



Styles for men

Urban men's styles are getting more colorful and bold. Here is a site that offers group-ordering from factories. The style is international, the fabric is not bad and the price is tempting.

Website:
d-clothes.taobao.com



Chocolate

People say that chocolate gives one the feeling of falling in love. Quality chocolate is a good way to kick out the winter blues.

Godiva

Where: 2F, Building 8, Sanlitun Village, 19 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang District
Open: 10 am – 10 pm

Photo provided by Godiva chocolate



Photo provided by UGG

Waterproof UGG

This brand is the must-have for every winter because it's light and warm. The fur is so soft that these are the only shoes that won't destroy your new pedicure polish.

It's also wise to update yours into waterproof boots in case you have to walk through slush.

UGG store

Where: 1F, Sanlitun Village, 19 Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang District
Open: 10 am – 10 pm

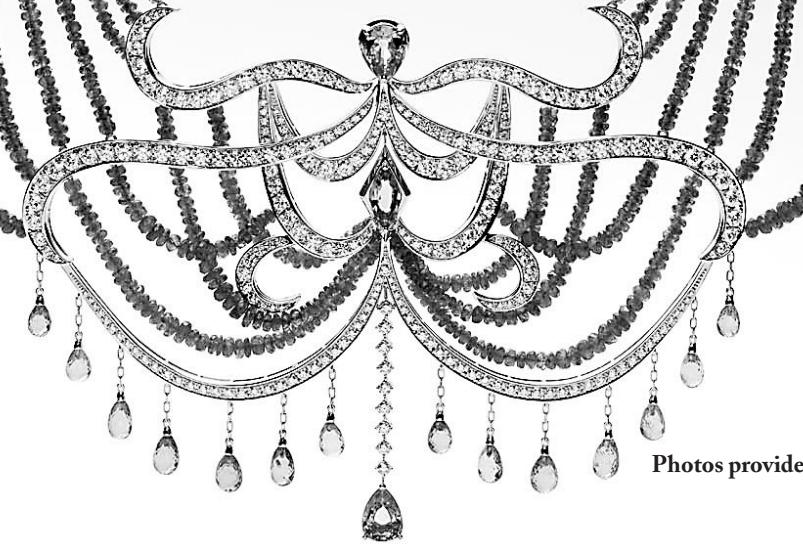
TASAKI's new jewelry inspired by fairy tales

TASAKI's new jewelry inspired by fairy tales

TASAKI's new necklaces for this season are inspired by fairy tales, such as The Black Swan. The purple crystal chandelier and deco drape earrings are inspired by the palace that Snow White lived in, and there is one shaped like shooting stars, ala Pinocchio.

TASAKI

Where: 105-106, 1 F, Guomao Summit Hotel, 1 Jianguomen Wai Dajie, Chaoyang District
Open: 10 am – 10 pm
Tel: 8535 1195



Photos provided by TASAKI



Warm-up drink

The brand Precellence has a drink made of ginger powder, French maritime pine bark extract and hyaluronic acid. Pour warm water into the mixture and stir. It tastes sweet and sour. It's the ideal morning drink for women who suffer from slow circulation, especially during their periods.

Website: winnieshi.taobao.com

Pearson Longman English World

asked how

I asked how could help.
 I asked how I could help.



- This is not a question but a statement reporting a question.
- The question may have been 'How can I help?' but in a reported question there is no need for the verb 'could' to go in front of the subject 'I'.
- There is no subject-verb inversion in reported questions:
 My father asked me where I was going.

Exercise

Choose the correct words:

1. do you, it / to, x
How _____ spell _____?

2. they could / could they
He wondered when _____ go.

Answers: 1. do you, it 2. they could

wondered when

Lara wondered when would they arrive.
 Lara wondered when they would arrive.



- The verb 'wonder' is reporting the question Lara was thinking about.
- In direct speech it might have been 'When will they arrive?' but in reported speech there is no subject-verb inversion.

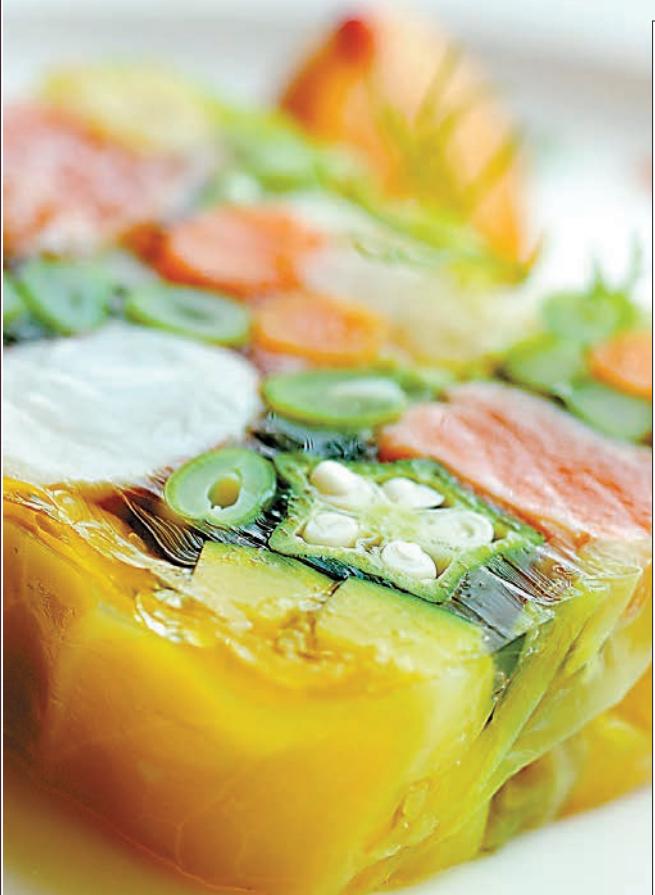


Book title:

Common English Errors in Hong Kong (New Edition) 是一本专门为香港初、中级英文水平的学生所编写的自学教材。本书指出并纠正大量本地学生所常犯的英文文法与字法使用上的错误，并附有非常生动活泼的插图，深受青少年学生的青睐。

资料来源: Language Leader (Pre-intermediate) by Ian Lebeau and Gareth Rees (Pearson Longman)

JE Mansion's new fusion creation



Seasonal greens and seafood gelee

Photos provided by JE Mansion

By Annie Wei

Terrace drinking and dining has come to a close due to the cold. But the next best thing is indoor dining with a view, and JE Mansion is offering one of the best: a chance to look out at a garden and watch leaves turn gold.

Since the place was rebuilt in 2008, JE Mansion has offered both Chinese and French cuisine, and creative fusion dishes.

The new fall and winter menu has a few nice surprises.

We enjoyed the charcoal matsutake. The Yunnan-grown matsutake has a unique and long-lasting fragrance. The preparation is simple – the mushroom is roasted over charcoal until the aroma fills the room, then seasoning sauce is added. The simple cooking technique retains the mushroom's natural flavor and nutrition.

Prawn, black truffle and vinegar sauce is another delight. The fat and fresh prawns are from North Korea, cooked by using a Chinese technique that keeps it chewy and tender, then topped with black truffles.

Seasonal greens and seafood gelee is made of various organic vegetables, salmon, oyster and shrimp, stewed for many hours. It has a refined and smooth texture.

Sauced tomato and crab meat is our favorite for its many layers of flavors and texture. The inside of a ripe tomato is mixed with steamed fresh crab meat, avocado, apples and greens, then seasoned and stuffed back into the tomato's shell. It's served without skin, and glazed with a sauce.

We ordered the sweet potato tart for dessert, paired with vanilla ice cream. The sweet potato is mashed, then infused with cream, brandy and sugar, and topped with an egg yolk and white wine mixture. It's then baked until golden.

JE Mansion

Where: West garden, Honglingjin Gongyuan, Chaoyang District

Open: 11 am – 11 pm

Tel: 5139 8739

Cost: average 800 yuan per person



Charcoal matsutake



Sweet potato tart with vanilla ice cream



Zhang Zhifeng, founder of NE-TIGER

NE-TIGER opens China Fashion Week

By Niu Chen

Top Chinese luxury brand NE-TIGER unveiled its 2013 spring and summer haute couture collection at the Beijing Hotel on October 25, the opening of 2012 China International Fashion Week.

The new collection continues NE-TIGER's dedication to "integrating antiquity and the present and merging Chinese and Western styles."

Its theme this year is HUA SONG, inspired by the clothing culture of the Song Dynasty. Inspired by the fashion of that era, the collection appears chic and sophisticated yet elegant and clean.

A total of 39 spectacular dresses were revealed, accompanied by "Listening to the Qin," a famous poem and painting by Emperor Huizong of Song. Many were evening gowns made from silk, chiffon and other fine materials.

"To the people of the Southern Song Dynasty,

the love for flowers reflects their passion for life and their worship of nature," said Zhang Zhifeng, founder of NE-TIGER. "Through our collection, people will learn more about Chinese culture and the culture of the Song Dynasty."

NE-TIGER is one of the most influential haute couture makers in China in spite of its relatively short history.

In 1982, Zhang opened his first tailor shop in Northeastern China, which was the starting point of NE-TIGER.

The brand of NE-TIGER was officially founded in 1992, and since then has developed into a top fur clothing company in China. It became the country's No. 1 fur clothing brand in 1997.

2006 was a big turning point for NE-TIGER, when it launched its first haute couture wedding collection: Phoenix.

Since then, NE-TIGER

explored traditional garment features of ancient China, such as brocade, tapestry and embroidery.

NE-TIGER has pushed out many haute couture collections. It has successfully integrated Western cutting and fashion with traditional Chinese techniques and aesthetics, winning recognition both home and abroad.

In 2011, celebrities such as Zhang Ziyi and Song Zuying appear in one of the China's National Image films wearing NE-TIGER designs. Zhang Zhifeng himself was also featured in the image film as one of the representative Chinese designers.

In the same year, NE-TIGER was invited to do shows in Rome and Milan as part of Sino-Italian Culture Year.

NE-TIGER has been present at the opening of China International Fashion Week for the last 12 years.



Model Du Juan walking at the show

Photos provided by NE-TIGER